

Lord Kitchener Will Go to the Front

New York, Feb. 4.—Lord Kitchener is to leave England early next month for active service at the front, according to a letter written by an officer of the Canadian expeditionary force, to a friend in New York.

"Lord Kitchener is to take up the charge of the infantry," writes the officer, "a branch of the service which he has always shown the greatest skill in handling, while the situation of Sir John French will be devoted entirely to the cavalry, is the arrangement set down according to my informant."

"Among military men the move is generally credited as being of vast importance. It is doubtful whether there is a greater genius living than Sir John French in directing the movements of cavalry and utilizing this unit to its maximum strategic value, while Kitchener has shown equal skill during his long military career in handling infantry."

ALARMED AT ITALY'S PREPARATIONS GERMANY ASKS GUARANTEE OF NEUTRALITY

Chiesio, Italy, Jan. 30.—Austria and Germany are growing daily more alarmed at the Italian war preparations, and are augmenting their troops along the Italian frontier.

Germany, especially, is pouring reinforcements from Bavaria into the Tyrol, it being understood that the German general staff is controlling all the Austrian military plans.

Prince Von Buelow, ambassador from Germany, speaking to Italian statesmen, made it clear that if provision for armament and the concentration of troops on the Austrian boundaries continued the central empires would be obliged to denounce the treaty of the Triple Alliance and send an ultimatum to Italy demanding guarantees for the maintenance of strict neutrality, with the alternative of being considered an enemy.

PROTESTS EXPORT MUNITIONS OF WAR

Toronto, Jan. 29.—A protest strongly worded against the United States continuing to permit the exportation of munitions of war to the allies in Europe is being circulated by interested persons in the republic, and, according to report, is receiving considerable support.

The protest contains argument against allowing exportation on the ground that munitions, besides going to Europe, are going to Japan.

"We are fortifying not only Europeans against each other, we are fortifying others against ourselves," it says.

A copy of this paper, which aims to bring pressure to bear on the United States government, has been received by Professor Anderson, of Toronto University. It starts out:

"We, the citizens of the United States of America, appeal in the name of neutrality and future peace, to the people, to the lawmakers and the government, of our country to prevent the export from our shores of one single weapon or one pound of powder to deal death in Europe."

"The President of the United States has prevented the loan of money to France, and thereby our country has set its own precedent of what is just and right. This precedent binds in legal opinion, as well as in the estimate of the world, to pursue a course of indisputable neutrality."

The protest details that great orders have been accepted and are being executed in the United

States for the continuance of the war, and asks:

"Where are our peace societies? Where are our women's organizations? Where are our churches? Are we, for the sake of present business profit, willing to draw upon ourselves an enduring heritage of hatred? Generations will not suffice to wipe away the stain we bring upon ourselves. Guns, cannon, cartridges, dynamite, bombs are going from our manufacturers not only to England, to France, and to Russia, but also to Japan. We are fortifying not only Europeans against each other; we are fortifying others against ourselves. In case of any future struggle forced upon our own land, picture the destruction brought upon us did any neutral country of Europe take the position of neutrality we assume today."

"We protest not only in the interest of America, but above all in the name of humanity, against a prolongation by our country of this hideous warfare. Our own land will be stained with the blood of our European brothers. We protest in the name of suffering womanhood, helpless children and all that lives and breathes against any participation by our country in this human outrage."

BUGLER GEORGE DEAN DIES IN AUTO SMASH AT SALISBURY PLAIN

London, Jan. 30.—The dramatic story of the death of a Canadian bugler in a midnight motor or smash was told at Salisbury Wednesday. The bugler, George Dean, aged 16, was riding in a small automobile with John Alexander Campbell, of the Canadian Dragoons, when they came to a halt through engine trouble, the stop being made beside a big motor lorry left on the roadside derelict, and without lights. Another car, containing Sergeant McIvor and Sergeant Smiley, also of the Canadian forces, came along, and in trying to avoid the lorry its steering gear was disabled, the car swerving first into the hedge and then crashing over upon the small car, which turned completely over. Dean was killed outright and Campbell gravely injured.

BIRTHDAY WAS SOLEMN ONE FOR KAISER

London, Jan. 30.—Emperor William's birthday was celebrated with enthusiasm in Berlin Wednesday, although with a degree of solemnity which would not have been expected in times of peace. A Reuter dispatch from Amsterdam transmits a telegram from Berlin describing the celebration. The city was decked with flags. Members of the diplomatic court and representatives of the state and municipal governments attended a service at the cathedral. Crown Prince Cecilie and Prince August William attended the service and were cheered enthusiastically. A reception was held later in the city hall. The birthday generally was celebrated in the other cities of the empire.

THINKS WAR WILL LAST TWO YEARS

Winnipeg, Jan. 30.—Charles F. Law, a big financial man of Vancouver, stopped off in Winnipeg for an hour Thursday night on his way home from London, and while in London he dined with Right-Hon. David Lloyd-George and Sir George Perley, Canadian high commissioner. Mr. Law is strongly of the opinion that the war will last two or even three years. He says that Germany is prepared to fight to the last ditch. Even the women will join in the fighting if need be.

"The Germans, he says, are well prepared for a long struggle and there is a short war it will be due to economic reasons. Among the chief factors which the Kaiser will have to fight is

the shortage of nitrate which enters so largely in the manufacture of ammunition. Also, he says, that nitrate is also used to a large extent in fertilizing products and the lack of it will work serious handicaps to the agriculturists who do so much intensive farming."

Mr. Lloyd-George, he says, is most optimistic of the ultimate victory of the allies. What appealed to Mr. Law was the different manner in which London and Paris took the war. In London the people went on their way unmuffled except from the occasional scare of aeroplane attacks. In Paris, on the other hand, the people were eager and excited, but the same determination was noticeable beneath the fronts of the people.

U. S. IMMIGRATION BILL VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT

Washington, Jan. 30.—President Wilson vetoed the immigration bill Thursday and sent a special message to congress saying he disapproved the measure because of the literacy test and other restrictive tests which it proposes as a condition of admission of immigrants to the United States.

President Wilson's message delivered to the house was as follows: "It is with unfeigned regret that I find myself constrained by clear conviction to return this bill (H.R. 6080) an act to regulate the immigration of aliens to and the residence of aliens in the United States" without my signature.

"Not only do I feel it to be a serious matter to exercise the power of my veto in any case," continues the message, "because it involves opposing the single judgment of the president to the judgment of a majority of both houses of congress, a step which no man who realizes his own inability to error can take without great hesitation, but also because this particular bill is in so many important respects admirable, well conceived and desirable."

"Its enactment into law could undoubtedly enhance the efficiency and improve the methods of handling the important branch of the public service to which it relates."

"In two particulars of vital consequence this bill embodies a radical departure from the traditional and long-established policy of this country, a policy in which our people have conceived the very character of their government to be expressed, the very mission and spirit of the nation in respect of its relation to the peoples of the world outside their borders."

The president concludes his message: "I have no pride of opinion on this question. I am not foolish enough to profess to know the wishes and ideals of America better than the body of our chosen representatives know them. I only want instruction direct from those whose fortunes with ours and all men's are involved."

Speaker Clark conferred at once with Representatives Burnett and Sabath, who had been leaders in the work of the bill. Mr. Burnett wanted an arrangement to bring the veto up for a vote on repackage a week from Friday; Mr. Sabath wanted it to come up next Tuesday. Burnett favors the bill, Sabath opposes it. A day probably will be set aside for debate before a vote is taken.

BIGAMIST IS SENTENCED

Moos Jaw, Sask., Jan. 30.—Thomas French, formerly of Windsor, Ont., who pleaded guilty a week ago to a charge of bigamy, was sentenced by Judge Ouseley to one year in the penitentiary. French was married 10 years ago in Windsor, and in November last married the daughter of a well-known Avonlea farmer, 30 miles south of the city.

BORN

Cox—At Canyon, Alberta, on January 29, 1915, to Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Cox, a son.

The Lacombe Seed Fair

The annual Seed Fair of the Lacombe Agricultural Society was held in the Town Hall on Friday last, and while the number of exhibits did not reach that of previous years, the sample of grain, etc., was greatly superior. The judges, Messrs. E. H. Malcolm, of Killam, and J. H. Nolan, of Kees Hill Valley, were greatly pleased with the samples of grain, and said they had seen no better this season in any part of Alberta. Prizes were awarded as follows:

- Winter Wheat—1, Capt. Evans. Spring Wheat—1, F. Flack; 2, C. W. Boys.
- Oats (long)—1, Thos. Henderson; 2, Young Bros.; 3, Sladen & Smith.
- Oats (short)—1, S. H. Welch; 2, Biglands & Threllick; 3, John Flack.
- Wheat (6-row)—1 and 2, Capt. Evans; 3, Biglands & Threllick.
- Barley (2 row)—No first allowed; 2, J. Laing.
- Timothy Seed—1, J. H. Grose; 2, J. Laing.
- White Potatoes—1, J. H. Grose; 2, L. B. Miller; 3, G. H. Grant.
- Red Potatoes—1, J. H. Grose; 2, L. B. Miller; 3, J. N. B. McDonald.

THE CARNIVAL

It is more than likely that the carnival to be held on Monday, the 8th, will be one of the best ever held in Lacombe—and we have had some good ones too. The war will lead a very special interest to the affair, not only because a percentage (16 p.c.) of the gross proceeds will be given to the patriotic fund, but on account of the opportunity afforded for simple yet effective making of costumes. An effort will be made to make the event of special interest to those who do not skate. The parade will not be compulsory for all, but it is hoped as many as possible will take part. There will be no fast skating during the parade, and all you have to do is to follow the leader. The races will be run off immediately after the costume judging in the following order:

- 1. Men's (10 laps).
 - 2. Boys' (5 laps).
 - 3. Girl's (2 laps).
 - 4. Pairs.
 - 5. Hurdle (jumping).
 - 6. Egg and spoon.
 - 7. Boys' dog sleigh race.
- After the races a new style hockey match will be played in costume, roughly rules to apply, five minutes each way.
- The rink will then be thrown open for skating.
- The ladies will run a refreshment booth, where a cup of tea or coffee and cake or sandwich may be obtained for 10c.
- Prizes for the following costumes are offered (patriotic costumes preferred):
- 1. Lady's.
 - 2. Gent's.
 - 3. Girl's.
 - 4. Boys'.
 - 5. Lady's group illustrating some phase of the war.
 - 6. Gent's group illustrating some phase of the war.

LETTER FROM T. THORP

Mr. A. Gilmour has received the following letter from Thos. Thorp, one of Lacombe's business men at present a prisoner in Germany:

No. 7275—Thos. Thorp, K. O. Yorkshire Light Infantry, Prisoner of War, Gefangenen Lager, Altamun, Near Stettin, Germany.

December 9th, 1914.

"You will no doubt be surprised to hear that I am a prisoner of war, but such is my luck. Not a very pleasant position to be in but I have a lot to be thankful for. I have come through the very thickest of it, and seen my poor chums go down, and was fortunate enough to get through

without a scratch, and, pleased to say, not likely to get hurt now. I cannot give you any news of any account of my experiences in the field, neither is any allowed to come through, so you see we are practically isolated. So when you write me mention nothing military, as the censorship is very strict.

How is the stock market this fall? I would imagine pork high. I don't suppose many turkeys will be needed for Christmas trade. I would like one here, but I am afraid I shall have to be content with rye bread, which is very heavy; I much prefer white bread.

I don't think the war can possibly last very long; it is too costly and horrible. I shall get over, there pretty quick when once I am released; I shall not waste much time, I assure you. I like Lacombe too well. I often think of the send-off.

It will be very nice to get in touch with you, which is an easy matter now, as we are likely to be here until the end, and we are getting letters and parcels through all right, so if you be sure and write the address plain it will reach me all right. I have written home for a Christmas cake and pudding to make it look a bit like Christmas.

Well, I trust Mrs. G. and yourself are well. Kindly remember me to all enquiring friends, also should you see George Baker, tell him to eat a little extra at Christmas and think of me on my bread.

I remain, respectfully,

T. THORP.

BENTLEY ITEMS

The regular Saturday night dance will be held on the 6th inst.

Percy Thorp has purchased the Dr. Archibald yacht, the largest craft on Gull Lake, and expects to have same for the use of the public next season.

Several Bentley people were eye-witnesses to the capture of the crazy man at Gilby on the 25th of January by the R.N.W. M.P. of Red Deer.

Preparations for the M. W. of A. entertainment to be given about the first of March are under way and progressing well under the management of F. W. Thorp.

About a dozen fans from here attended the Calgary "Crystals" and Lacombe hockey game at Lacombe on Saturday night last, and were given plenty of amusement in the way of hockey and fast work.

Private E. St. J. O'Neill, now of Calgary, made a trip up on business and a visit among friends here from Saturday to Monday, quite a delegation going as far as Lacombe to see him off on Monday. He states the second contingent may leave for France at any time.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of the Lacombe Liberal Association will be held in F. Vickerson's office on Friday evening February 12, at 8 o'clock. Liberals are requested to attend.

BABY KILLERS MAY FACE CAZAR'S COURT

Petrograd, Jan. 30.—The Novoe Vremya says that in order to establish the legal status of bomb dropping, Russia will place the German captured in the Zeppelin which recently attacked Lwow, on trial. They will be charged with dropping bombs on an undefended town.

Spies Masquerade as Nurses

London, Jan. 30.—The Nursing Mirror, one of the organs of trained nurses in England, calls attention to the dan of spies masquerading as nurses, and adds that Lord Kitchener himself is aware of this menace, and caused an investigation to be made at one of the Southampton hospitals some weeks ago. There he found, according to the journal, that four women had been indiscreet in the matter of discussing matters relative to the army. While they were not spies, they showed so little common sense that they were dismissed. On the other side of the channel the state of affairs has been more serious. Two nurses were recently found to be out-and-out spies. Both were Americans with German sympathies, according to the Nursing Mirror, and both, it says, were "effectually dealt with."

Just what this implies was not made clear.

At any rate the fact has resulted in a close scrutinizing of the record and antecedents of all prospective nurses together with the enforcement of all manner of strict regulations at every hospital.

LUNATIC WITH ARSENAL

The Red Deer Mounted Police had an exciting time near Gilby P.O. last week, capturing a lunatic, who was armed to the teeth and shot at Constables Thompson and Rodman with a Mauser rifle.

The lunatic was Alex. Listman, a Finn, thirty years of age, who has had the settlers in that district badly frightened for some time. It took the R.N.W. M. Police ten days to capture him. He had barricaded himself in the shack, with a stockade built round one of the doors, the other door being of heavy material. It was thought at one time that he would have to be snaked out, but Inspector MacDonald and Corporal Hanna made a dash for the stockade door, and Listman came out of the other door, and was captured. On the previous day, when trying to get him out, he opened fire with his Mauser and narrowly missed Constable Thompson. When captured, the police found on him, and in his shack, a home made pistol that would shoot specially made shells, a 32 revolver, a small shot gun, a Mauser rifle, a big dirk, and a number of hand made shells about six inches long, with a large quantity of ammunition for all his arms—Red Deer News.

GOVERNMENT WILL BUY HORSES HERE

Mr. E. J. Legg, purchasing officer for the Canadian Government, with Dr. Walters as veterinary, will be in Lacombe on Tuesday, February 16, to purchase riding and artillery horses direct from farmers and owners for the government. Full particulars will be found in the announcement on the last page of this issue of The Guardian.

MARRIED

JOSLIN McMillan.—At the Presbyterian Manse, Lacombe, on Wednesday, Jan. 20, by the Rev. M. White, B.D., Roy John Joslin, of Clive, to Miss Blanche Rae McMillan, of Teas.

The Lacombe Guardian

F. H. SCHOOLEY, PROPRIETOR

SIR EDWARD GREY, IN STATE
MENT ON THE WAR, SHOWS
INSINCERITY OF THE
"SCRAP OF PAPER
MAN"

London, Jan. 30.—Sir Edward Grey, the British secretary of state for foreign affairs has authorized the following statement in reply to an interview obtained with Dr. Von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German imperial chancellor, by a representative of the Associated Press and published in London, January 26, and in the United States and Canada January 28.

The secretary of state for foreign affairs authorizes the publication of the following observations upon the report of an interview recently granted by the German chancellor to an American correspondent:

"It is not surprising that the German chancellor should show anxiety to explain away his own historic phrase, about a treaty being a mere 'scrap of paper'."

"The phrase has made a deep impression because the progress of the world largely depends upon the sanctity of its agreements between individuals and between nations and the policy dictated by Herr Von Bethmann-Hollweg's phrase tends to debase the legal and moral currency of civilization."

"What the German chancellor said was that Great Britain was requiring Germany to respect the neutrality of Belgium was going to make war just for a scrap of paper—that is, that Great Britain was making a mountain out of a mole hill. He now asks the American public to believe that he meant the exact opposite of what he said; that it was Great Britain who really regarded the neutrality of Belgium as a mere trifle, and that it was Germany who took her responsibilities toward the neutral states seriously."

"The arguments by which Herr Von Bethmann-Hollweg seeks to establish the two sides of the case are in flat contradiction of the plain facts."

"First the German chancellor alleges that England in 1911 was determined to throw troops into Belgium without the assent of the Belgian government. This allegation is absolutely false. It is based upon certain documents found in Brussels which record conversations between German and Belgian officers in 1906, and again in 1911."

"The fact that there is no note of these conversations at the British war office or the foreign office shows that they were of a purely informal character, and that no military agreement of any sort was at either time made between the two governments."

"Before any conversations took place between the British and Belgian officers, it was expressly laid down on the British side that discussion of the military possibilities was to be addressed to the manner in which, in case of need, British assistance could be most effectively afforded to Belgium for the defense of her neutrality, and on the Belgian side a marginal note upon the records explains that the entry of the English into Belgium would only take place after the violation of our (Belgium's) neutrality by Germany."

"As regards the conversation of 1911, the Belgian officer said to the British officer: 'You could only land in our country with our consent,' and in 1913 Sir Edward Grey gave the Belgian government a categorical assurance that no British government would violate the neutrality of Belgium, and that so long as it was not violated by any other power, we should certainly not send troops ourselves into their territory."

"The chancellor's method of mis-using documents may be illustrated in this connection. He represents Sir Edward Grey as saying 'he did not believe England would take such a step because he did not think public opinion would justify such action.'"

"If the German chancellor wishes to know why there were conversations on military subjects between British and Belgian officers, he may look to the fact well known to him, namely, that Germany was establishing an elaborate network of strategic railways leading from the Rhine to the Belgian frontier, through a barren, thinly-populated tract. The railways were deliberately constructed to permit of a sudden attack upon Belgium, such as was carried out on August last."

"This fact alone was enough to justify any communications between Belgium and the other powers, on the footing that there would be no violation of Belgian neutrality, unless it was previously violated by another power. On no other footing did Belgium ever have any such communications."

"In spite of these facts the German chancellor speaks of Belgium as having thereby abandoned and forfeited her neutrality, and he implies that he would not have spoken of the German invasion as a wrong had he then known of the conversations of 1906 and 1911."

"It would seem to follow that according to Herr Von Bethmann-Hollweg's code wrong becomes right if the party which is to be the subject of the wrong foresees the possibility and makes preparations to resist it."

"The second part of the German chancellor's thesis, namely, that Germany 'took her responsibilities toward the neutral states seriously,' he alleges nothing except that he spoke frankly of the wrong committed by Germany in invading Belgium."

"That a man knows the right while doing a wrong is not usually accepted as proof of his serious conscientiousness. The real nature of Germany's view of her responsibilities toward the neutral states may, however, be learned on authority which cannot be disputed by reference to the English white paper."

"If those responsibilities were in truth taken seriously, why when Germany was asked to respect the neutrality of Belgium, did Germany refuse? France when asked the corresponding question at the same time agreed. This would have guaranteed Germany from all danger of attack through Belgium."

"The reason of Germany's refusal was given by Herr Von Bethmann-Hollweg's colleague (the German secretary, Herr Von Jagow). It may be paraphrased in the well-known Gloss upon Shakespeare: 'Thrice is he armed that hath his quarrel just, but four times he that gets his blow in first.'"

"They had to advance into France," said Herr Von Jagow, "by the quickest and easiest way so as to be able to get well ahead with their operations and endeavor to strike some decisive blow as early as possible."

"Germany's real attitude towards Belgium was thus frankly given by the German foreign secretary to the British ambassador and the German chancellor in his speech to the reichstag claiming the right to commit a wrong in the virtue of the military necessity of hacking his way through. The treaty which forbade the wrong was by comparison a mere scrap of paper."

"The truth was spoken in these first statements by the two German ministers. All the apologies and agreements which have since been forthcoming are afterthoughts to excuse and explain away flagrant wrong. Moreover all the attacks upon Great Britain in regard to this matter and all talk about responsibilities towards neutral states, come bad from the man who on July 29 asked Great Britain to enter into a bargain to condone the violation of the neutrality of Belgium."

"The German chancellor spoke to the American correspondent of his effort for years to bring about an understanding between England and Germany."

"An understanding," he added, which would have absolutely guaranteed the peace of Europe."

"He omitted to mention what Mr. Asquith made public in his speech at Cardiff, that Germany required as the price of an understanding an unconditional pledge of England's neutrality. The British government were ready to bind themselves not to be parties to any aggression against Germany. They were not prepared to pledge their neutrality in case of aggression by Germany."

"An Anglo-German understanding of the latter terms would not have meant an absolutely free hand for Germany so far as England was concerned, for Germany to break the peace of Europe."

"The chancellor says that in his conversation with the British ambassador in August last he may have been a bit excited at seeing the hopes and work of the whole period of his chancellorship going for naught. Considering that at the date of the conversation, on August 4, Germany had already made war on France, the natural conclusion is that the shipwreck of the chancellor's hopes consisted not in a European war but in the fact that England had not agreed to stand out of it."

"The sincerity of the German chancellor's professions to be brought to a very simple test, the appeal of which is more opposite because it is so real to one of the leading facts which produced the present war."

"Herr Von Bethmann-Hollweg refused the proposal which England put forward, and in which France, Italy and Russia concurred, for a conference at which the dispute would have been settled on fair and honorable terms without war. If he really wished to work with his neighbor at peace why did he not accept that proposal? He must have waited the Balkan conference in London that England could be trusted to play fair. Herr Von Jagow had given testimony in the reichstag to England's good faith in these negotiations."

"The proposal for the second conference between the powers was made by Sir Edward Grey with the same straightforward desire for peace as in 1912-13. The German chancellor rejected this means of averting the war. He who does not will the means must not complain if the conclusion is drawn that he did not will the end."

"The second part of the interview with an American newspaper correspondent consisted of a discourse on the war."

"The things which Germany has done in Belgium and France have been placed on record by those who have suffered from them and who know them at first hand. After this it does not lie with the German chancellor to read to the other belligerents a lecture upon the conduct of the war."

WAR CORRESPONDENT TELLS OF GERMAN ATROCITIES.

Ottawa, Jan. 21.—Instances of German atrocities which he had witnessed were related to the Ottawa Canadian Club Wednesday by Alex. Powell, war correspondent of The New York World, who was with the Belgian army in its vain fight to stop the German invasion. The story was related simply, circumstantially and with every attempt at reserve. They created a profound impression on the audience which contained a number of cabinet ministers, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and several of the leading officers of the militia department. Mr. Powell related three cases which he had seen with his own eyes half an hour after they happened, and in two cases he assisted in the burial of the unfortunate.

In every case the Germans were responsible for committing outrages. In one case Mr. Powell says, after the battle of Malines, the Uhlans were successfully pursuing the Belgian foot troops, who were keeping up a rear-guard action. There was a slight skirmish near a small village. Mr. Powell said he had not seen one Uhlai fall from his saddle shot. A few minutes later the main body of the Uhlans approached. There was a pretty cottage near. In this an old man, his son, wife and daughter lived. To make certain that they would be treated as non-combatants they had barred their windows and had hidden in the cellar."

The man and his son were ruthlessly hauled out and were bayoneted to death before the eyes of

the mother and daughter. "I know this is a fact," added Mr. Powell. "I was there 20 minutes later. I saw the victims. I counted no less than 20 bayonet wounds in the face and neck of the father. I helped to bury him."

The next incident told of was still more revolting. It was almost inhuman. In a fight from a Belgian village on the approach of the Uhlans there was a cry: "The Germans are coming." The women, children and old men hastened toward a small wood where they thought they might get shelter. One woman delayed to secure her baby. An approaching Uhlai shouted to her to stop as she ran. She either did not hear or paid no heed to him. The Uhlai thereupon drove through the fields, caught up with her and with his automatic revolver blew out the brains of the baby in her arms."

"I know this is a fact, dreadful as it might seem. I saw the baby and talked with the mother."

BLOCKADE OF GERMAN COAST IS CONSIDERED

London, Jan. 30.—The Chronicle's naval correspondent, dealing with the question of international law raised by the Dacia and Wilhelm cases, discussed the possibility of Great Britain declaring a commercial blockade of the North German sea coast.

"One great object of our naval operation," says the Chronicle expert, "is to exercise compression on Germany with the hope of abridging the duration of the war. It is obvious, however, that if neutral ships should be permitted to carry great supplies of foodstuffs into German ports, as seems to be expected in some quarters, our purpose may be defeated or its accomplishment delayed."

"A commercial blockade of an enemy's coast is undoubtedly the most effective way of exerting the comprehensive influence of sea power. We have precedent, if any were required, for blockading the German North Sea coast in our blockade of the coast from Denmark to the Elbe in 1900, and we have acted in a similar manner at other localities."

"If the whole of the German coast on the North Sea were declared under blockade, the entrance of the Wilhelm case, supposing her to be bound to Hamburg, would not be possible unless she were successful as a blockade runner. There is no longer any idea of a squadron lying off the enemy's ports, as in the old wars. It is not necessary, as Admiral Mahan long since said, that a blockading squadron should be within sight of the enemy's coast. He said that half a dozen fast steamers, cruising 20 miles off shore, between the New Jersey and Long Island coast, would be a very real danger to ships seeking to break a blockade of New York."

"We are in agreement with the United States that a ship may be arrested at any point on a blockaded coast, and if that should be the case, our blockade might be asserted effectively at the Straits of Dover, and the north passage between Scotland and Norway. Many difficult questions would no doubt be raised by declaring a blockade of the German coast, but they would not prove insuperable. Difficulties have often arisen from a blockade, and they were not absent when President Lincoln, in the American civil war, announced his intention of blockading the whole confederation coast."

"The United States would not be likely to raise serious objections if we declared and exercised an effective means of blockade. To interfere with the legitimate operations of a belligerent would be, an unequal procedure, of which they would not be likely to be guilty."

AUSTRIA CALLS UP MORE RESERVES.

Geneva, via Paris, Jan. 22.—Dispatches from Budapest state that the governor of Cracow has ordered the partial evacuation from the city and its suburbs of women, children and men unfit for military service. They have been given 48 hours to leave. The men over military age, but who are still active, have been formed into a civic guard. The banks have been transferred to Vienna. The Austrian war office has issued an order calling up all of the landsturm men up to and including those aged 60. The order applies throughout the Austrian empire."

The OLIVER Typewriter

REFUSED TO SELL WOOL TO GERMAN BUYERS

Sydney, Australia, Jan. 26.—At the wool sales today the auctioneer refused a German buyer's bid for a certain lot of the material. A dispute followed, and when the lot was submitted for sale it was knocked down to a French firm at the price the German had offered. Other supposed German bids made later were also refused, and the German representative finally left the sales room, having been unable to buy a single bale.

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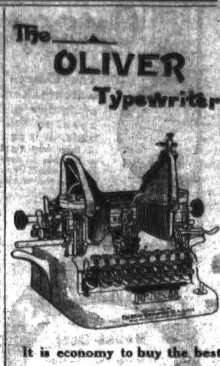
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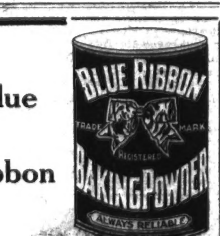


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Blue Ribbon, the standard of quality in Tea, Coffee, Baking Powders, Jelly Powders, Spices and Extracts.

WAR FOOTING OF B.C. MILITIA IS EXPENSIVE

Winnipeg, Jan. 30.—The Ottawa correspondent of The Free Press says:

"One of the missions of Major General Hughes to the Pacific Coast, whence he is returning, was to endeavor to find out whether it was necessary to spend so much of the Dominion's money in continuing to keep under arms on active service bases practically every militia unit in British Columbia. General Hughes also wanted to find out why the orders repeatedly sent out from militia headquarters here for the demobilization of the Pacific Coast troops had not been carried out after the scales of attack from Germans either by sea or land from across the American boundary had comparatively subsided.

"It will be remembered that shortly after the war broke out an order went out from Ottawa on request from the provincial authorities calling out for active service every militia unit in British Columbia. Since that date they have been kept under arms and have been receiving active service pay, totalling to date some hundreds of thousands of dollars.

There were panicky conditions in British Columbia at the opening of the war when the whereabouts of the German cruisers on the Pacific was unknown, and when the sound of dysentery in harbor works was taken for booming of hostile guns from them. There was also a large amount of unemployment in British Columbia and Premier McBratney was very much worried to know how to deal with the conditions in the province.

The mobilizing of all the militia regiments in the province at the expense of the Dominion offered a ready solution. After the men had been under arms for two or three weeks and the scare had subsided, orders were sent out from here to district officer commanding to call the units in from the troops and stop unnecessary expenses. The order was given in British Columbia, but the provincial authorities, it is understood, intervened, and it was not obeyed. Subsequent orders of a similar nature sent out from militia headquarters here were likewise ignored, and one excuse after another was found for keeping several thousands of the British Columbia militia drawing daily active service pay from the Dominion treasury.

It may be noted that one British Columbia regiment has been on active service for several years. This is the regiment which was called out at the time of the Nanaimo strike. The strike was over when the war commenced, but the militiamen were still on strike duty. Now they are on guard duty and still drawing pay.

Major-General Hughes will probably have an interesting report to make to the government when he returns to Ottawa at the week as to why the British Columbia end of the national defense has cost so much and why it should not be reduced.

BEATTY'S STORY OF NORTH SEA VICTORY

London, Jan. 30.—The admiral who received the following preliminary telegraphic report from Vice Admiral Sir David Beatty regarding the naval action between the British and German squadrons in the North Sea on Sunday:

"A flotilla of destroyers patrolling about 7.30 o'clock in the morning sighted, and attacked the enemy, whose force, according to the reports received, consisted of four battle cruisers, six light cruisers and some destroyers. Their position when sighted was approximately fourteen miles east-southeast of our battle cruiser squadron.

"Orders were given by signal to the destroyer flotilla to chase the enemy and to report their movements. As it appeared that they had at once commenced to retire to the east-southeast, the battle cruisers were directed to steer southeast with a view to securing the lee position and cutting off the enemy if possible. The situation developed by degrees into a stern chase.

"Speed was worked up to 28 or 29 knots, and the enemy were gradually being overhauled. At about 18.00 yards a slow and deliberate fire was opened and we

began to hit at a range of 17,000 yards. Our fire was returned by the enemy.

"The Lion and Tiger, having drawn ahead of the remainder of the squadron, were in action alone for some time, and, consequently, were subjected to the enemy's concentrated fire, more particularly the Lion, which ship suffered more as a result.

"The other vessels, as they drew up, were also subjected to the German fire of destroyers was disposed on the starboard beam of their cruisers and an attack by them was driven off.

"At about 12 o'clock, unfortunately, a lucky shot damaged one of the Lion's red tanks, causing the port engine to be stopped. At the same time enemy submarines were observed on the starboard bow and a course was steered in order to avoid them.

"The Blucher (German) was now in a critical condition, with her speed reduced, and the Indomitable, which had now come up, was directed to complete her destruction.

"The rest of the squadron were directed to attack the rear of the enemy. The Lion, with escort, steered to the northwest, attacking with one engine, and I transferred my flag to one of the destroyers and subsequently to the Princess Royal. Through the damage to the Lion's lead tank by an unfortunate shot we were undoubtedly deprived of a greater victory. The presence of the enemy's submarines subsequently necessitated the action being broken off.

"The result of the action was that the Blucher was sunk, and two other battle cruisers were heavily on fire and seriously damaged. The German prisoners reported also that the Kolberg had been sunk by salvos from our squadron.

"Subsequently the starboard engines of the Lion also developed trouble from the same cause as the port engines and the Indomitable took her in tow and brought her into port. The damage to the Lion and Tiger is in neither case serious, and repairs can be completed in a short time. The remainder of the squadron were not hit.

"The casualties were very slight. The death of Engineer Captain [name] whose services have been invaluable, is deeply regretted.

"The behavior of officers and men was only what was expected, and great credit is due to the engine room staffs for the fine steaming of the squadron. According to a trustworthy authority the condition of the German battle cruisers Seydlitz and Derfflinger when the pursuit was abandoned owing to the approach to the German battle fields was desperate in the extreme. The Derfflinger was believed to have been torpedoed by a British destroyer and it was considered questionable whether she would be able to reach the safety of the mine fields.

"The battering of the German ships, said this authority, was underrated rather than overrated. As to the German destroyers, it is asserted they were so badly damaged by the British, that it was impossible that they could long remain afloat.

"The earlier reports of the engagement announced that the Lion and the torpedo boat destroyer Meteor had been damaged. Vice Admiral Beatty's report mentions the Lion and Tiger and omits any reference to the Meteor.

MORE INTENSE FIGHTING SOON—TROOPS ACTIVE

Northern France, Jan. 30.—It is certain that the fighting will soon become more intense. On both fronts considerable bodies of troops are in movement. The allies are in touch with everything that is going on behind the German lines in Belgium.

All yesterday and the preceding day, large droves of Belgian refugees were pouring out by trainloads. Trains followed one another in quick succession and at the stations charitable agencies are actively attending to the needs of the unfortunate emigrants, who are almost completely without resources. Many of them say that they have not eaten for 24 hours or more. These Belgians come for the most part from the districts of Ypres and Dixmude. They are being taken to concentration camps in the south of France.

TEUTONS ATTEMPT TO SHIFT WEIGHT OF RUSSIAN ATTACK FROM POLAND TO SOUTH

London, Jan. 30.—A great battle was developed in Galicia along a 100-mile front, skirting the Carpathians. This struggle, which is in pursuance of the new Austro-German plan of shifting the weight of attack from Central Poland to the south, marks a turning point in the campaign in the east, and both the Russians and Teutons attach the highest importance to the outcome.

The Austro-German armies, if successful, would check Russia's drive at Northern Hungary. Thus far there is no indication as to the result of the fighting in this battle, which probably is still in its preliminary stage. An official communication from Petrograd says merely that the battle is developing on a large scale. To the eastward in Bukovina there is no prospect of fighting which is another phase of the Austro-German movement to drive back the Russians.

The Russian report states that artillery engagements are in progress, but gives no information of the outcome in Bukovina. Meanwhile, the struggle continues in the north along the Warsaw front. Repeated German attacks were made, and at one point on the Bzura the attackers broke through to the Russian trenches. The Russian statement says that later they were expelled at the point of the bayonet.

In the west, the Germans have renewed their assault in the neighborhood of Soissons. In Alsace, the fighting is less intense on account of heavy snow.

In Egypt, the Turkish advance appears ready to have begun. In the Caucasus the shattered Turks have more or less reorganized and paused in their flight toward their own frontier and resumed their offensive.

While it is not probable that any considerable body of Turks has yet penetrated the Sinai peninsula, their advance counts as virtually at the edge of the Suez canal having moved along the caravan route near the Mediterranean. It is believed that another column plans to advance through the centre of the peninsula, while perhaps a third will attempt to reach the Suez along the southern route from Abakha. All these routes are without water, and those to the north and south are open to flank attacks from the Mediterranean and Red Sea respectively. It is believed here that the Turks, who have been in contact with the British to the east of El Kantara, worked their way westward under the protection of the sand dunes. This would leave them open to attack only by aeroplanes from the sea.

Desperate fighting marked yesterday, the anniversary of Emperor William's birthday, at many points on the western front, but the claim of the contending armies as to the results of these engagements are widely at variance. Generally speaking, the allies say the German attacks were costly failures, while the Germans assert that the French and British, but notably the British, attacks in Flanders broke down.

Reports of the engagement in the North Sea last Sunday have developed a similar discrepancy. The war lords of Great Britain insist that the battle cruiser Lion was the only big ship to be seriously damaged.

FRENCH REPORT MANY CHECKS ON GERMANS

Paris, Jan. 30.—The following official communiqué was issued by the French war office Wednesday night:

"The enemy attempted a sudden attack in the St. Mar, in the region of Tracy-leval (northwest of Soissons). After a violent fusillade the Germans exploded mines, which destroyed our trenches for a distance of about fifty metres, but they were not able to establish themselves by reason of the dominating fire of our artillery.

"These trenches have been re-occupied and put in order.

"To the west of Croisne the night was calm. The fighting on January 25 and 26 in this region presented the following character: After a prolonged and intense bombardment with projectiles of large calibre and bombs, the Ger-

man infantry delivered an attack on the Henri-Chauffe-Bels de Foulon front, but were repulsed by everywhere with heavy losses except at La Creute.

"A landslide caused by the storm of immense projectiles obstructed the entrance of an old quarry, which served as a storehouse and shelter for the garrison of our trenches at La Creute. Two companies of these troops were repulsed.

"The enemy, having thus gained a foothold at La Creute, penetrated the Foulon wood and rendered untenable the neighboring trench, which we have evacuated.

The counter-attacks which we delivered over a good part of the ground lost were brilliant. The ardor of our troops was beyond all praise. The enemy suffered very great losses, and left on the field a thousand dead. The prisoners taken belonged to five different regiments, which is an indication of the importance of the attack.

"In the Argonne, near St. Hubert, a German attack has failed. During the day three new attacks were executed within two hours, every one of them being vigorously repulsed.

"The night of January 28-29 was calm in Alsace and the Vosges. There is nothing of importance to communicate on the rest of the front."

NEW PRESIDENT OF MEXICO MOVES

Mexico City, Jan. 30.—Provisional President Garza and his government left the capital early Wednesday for Cuernavaca, where a new seat of government will be established.

In the afternoon the last contingents of the army of evacuation were hurrying through the streets. The army of occupation lingers on the outskirts of the city, but is expected to enter soon.

All the commercial houses and banks, and even private dwellings are barred, and shuttered, although no disorder has attended the fleeing of the forces of Scapata and Villa.

The national palace and the federal telegraph and post offices and other government establishments are closed. The incoming Garza forces are commanded by General Alvarado, former post commander here. When they enter the city it is expected that some sort of government will be established. The decision of the government to leave the capital came after a heated discussion at a session of the convention held Tuesday night. It was decided that President Garza and his government and members of the convention should proceed after midnight to Cuernavaca, Col. General and General Ernesto Santocoy are reported to have departed on a special locomotive.

FOUND FROZEN TO DEATH WITHIN SIGHT OF HOME

Calgary, Jan. 30.—W. E. Thompson, an elderly man, who has been in this city for some time, was found lying in the snow on the prairie, about 500 yards from his shack, in Burnside, East Calgary, dead, about 9 o'clock Wednesday morning. He had evidently been lying exposed to the bitter cold all night, within sight of his home. A man by the name of Jones notified the police when he found the body of Thompson, and the remains were removed to the undertaking parlors of Harrison & Foster.

The late Mr. Thompson hailed from Scarborough, England, and investigation with regard to finding relatives will be made.

300 FISHERMEN'S NARROW ESCAPE

Buffalo, N.Y., Jan. 30.—Three hundred fishermen were in grave danger of being carried down the Niagara river on an ice floe Thursday night. They were rescued by fire tugs. At midnight it was believed all had been brought ashore, but several had not been definitely accounted for. A fire tug will cruise through the broken ice until daylight.

The fishermen had been working off Windmill Point, about twelve miles up the north shore of Lake Erie. They were returning at nightfall when they were held up by a channel of open water.

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Watch this space for further reasons.

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JOB PRINTING

About 9 o'clock it was discovered that a huge section of ice on which they gathered had broken free and was drifting toward the head of the river.

Word of the fishermen's plight had in the meantime reached the police and two fire tugs were sent out. It took the boats until midnight to pick up the men and land them at the harbor entrance. There were reports of men still missing, but it is believed that these started for the south shore of the lake before the break occurred and will return in the morning.

Lacombe 2nd Hand Store

DEFENDS RIGHT OF U.S. TO BUY UP FOREIGN SHIPS

Washington, Jan. 30.—For the first time in the two weeks the ship bill has been under continuous republican attack in the senate the administration's defense of the measure was brought forward in a speech Thursday by Senator Walsh, who replied to Senator Root's contention that its enactment would lead the United States into foreign complications.

Citing rules of the British admiralty, the declaration of London, decisions of the privy council, and the United States supreme court, Senator Walsh defended the right of the United States to purchase ships of the belligerents was unquestioned so long as the transactions were in absolute good faith; that Great Britain has maintained the right for more than 100 years and that France for the same length of time has acquired in the principle of the declaration that had Senator Root's argument been advanced by another it would have been accounted impossible.

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INTERNATIONAL FUR ROBBERIES ARE UNCOVERED

Minneapolis, Jan. 30.—Furs valued at \$5,000, stolen in Canada and smuggled across the border, were shipped to the Twin Cities, and were seized by the secret service men in Minneapolis and St. Paul, and it is expected the ring leaders of a gang which, within the last year, has stolen furs valued at more than \$25,000, will be arrested within a short time. One seizure of a "phant" was made Monday in Minneapolis, and Wednesday another lot was found in St. Paul. The gang, which appears to have operated in all the large Canadian cities near the American border, notably Winnipeg, Toronto and Hamilton, is believed to have confederates in many American cities and furs have been found in New York, Birmingham, Ala.; Detroit and Chicago. The Chicago federal agents say they found a large quantity of furs in the apartments occupied by Mrs. Alice Burns, wife of Frank Burns, a former prize fighter, 3100 Groveland avenue.

Magnet Lodge No. 12 I. O. O. F.

Meets in Masonic Hall, Lacombe, every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Visiting brothers always welcome. J. Nottingham, N. G., Geo. Baker, R. S.

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In "Ye Olden Tymes"

The time was, and not many years ago, that spectacles were just for grandmothers and fossilized old fogies. Glasses were supposed to ruin children's eyes. The said "old fogies" shook their wise old heads, their long gray whiskers straining at their moorings as the wind blew through, and predicted the ruination of the "young one's eyes."

Science has proven that only one out of every hundred of us have both eyes alike and that the majority of children should wear glasses.

Let us fit your child with the glasses that its eyes require.

PAUL HOTSON

Jeweler and Optician. Issuer of Marriage Licenses.
Royal Bank Building Barnett Ave., Lacombe

Items of Interest Locally

Wednesday evening the Alberta's, of Edmonton defeated the local hockey team 9 to 3.

A confirmation class is being held every Friday in St. Cyprian's Church at 8 p.m. Open to all.

Mrs. E. T. Scragg will be at home on Wednesday, Feb. 10th, and afterwards on the second Wednesday of each month.

The many friends of Mrs. Edgar Rowland, Clive, will be pleased to learn that she has undergone a

successful operation in the Lacombe hospital.

The Women's Institute held a most enjoyable progressive euchre party at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Val Redig on Thursday evening, Jan. 28th. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

A ten cent tea and sale of baking in aid of the Red Cross Society, will be held at the home of Mrs. Watkins on Tuesday, February 9th. Will the ladies of the Red Cross kindly contribute baking.

Miss Elizabeth Pierce, of Victoria, B.C., sister of Mrs. W. G. Sage, of Lacombe, and who volunteered for service in the nursing corps to sail soon for the battlefields of Europe, was called

to Ottawa on Jan. 26th, and expects to leave for the front in a few days.

The Epworth League of the Methodist Church will hold a Valentine Social on Monday evening, Feb. 15, to assist in raising money for the missionary department. Fuller particulars will be given next week.

A rink of Lacombe curlers are participating in the Red Deer bonspiel this week. H. A. Day, A. M. Campbell, W. A. Shields and A. Gilmour, are the curlers representing the Lacombe devotees of the roarin' game.

On the eve of his departure for camp at Calgary, E. St. J. O'Neill, one of Bentley's most popular young men, was given a farewell luncheon by about 25 Bentley and Lacombe citizens on Monday afternoon last. Speeches were made by Messrs. Vickerson, Thorp, Williams, and others, in which every good wish for Mr. O'Neill's safe return from the battlefields of Europe were expressed.

The Union Bank will receive 25c. subscriptions to the "London Times" Overseas Tobacco Club, in connection with the supplying tobacco to the sailors and soldiers at the front. The London Times will send 65c. worth of tobacco, doge up in package, with name and address of subscriber, to some soldier in the field, and the Union Bank will see that the subscriptions are forwarded without cost to the Times. Hand Mr. Graham your two bits today.

A. Creighton, and old-time resident of Lacombe, but latterly of Olds, has purchased the City Pharmacy, and will take possession in a few days. Mr. Creighton is an experienced druggist and has many friends in Lacombe who will welcome him into the ranks of our business men.

While it is now generally known that the Modern Woodmen of America have established in Colorado a Sanatorium for the treatment of tuberculosis, there are still many who do not fully realize the scope of the great work that is being accomplished by this institution. Provincial Deputy Ogden O. Johnson is arranging to give a lecture in Lacombe on this subject on a date in the near future. The exact date will be announced soon. The lecture will be fully illustrated with lantern views, and will be free to all. No one who feels at all interested should miss it. The members of Hub Camp 13324, of Lacombe, will put on a social dance after the lecture. The Comet Theatre will be secured for the occasion, and it will be a big night for Woodcraft in Lacombe. Further particulars will be given next week.

FIRE AT GADSBY

Gadsby, on the Lacombe east line, was visited by a disastrous fire on Tuesday morning of this week. At 4:30 the alarm was given, when the hardware store and the butcher shop were discovered to be a mass of flames, which soon spread to the Royal Bank and a restaurant, all four being totally destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Military Horses Wanted

For Canadian Government

Riding Horses

Age, 5 to 9 years; height, 15 to 15-3 hands; weight, 1,000 to 1,150 pounds.

Artillery Horses

Age, 5 to 9 years; height, 15 to 15-3 hands; weight, 1,100 to 1,300 pounds.

COLORS.

Bays, Browns, Blacks, Chestnuts, Blue Roans, Red Roans, No Light Greys or Whites.

REQUIREMENTS.

All Horses must be in good condition, sound, of good conformation, free from blemishes or vice, and broken to harness or saddle.

GEO. HOADLEY,
Commissioner for Alberta.

LIEUT.-COL. A. D. McRAE,
Chief Commissioner for Requirements for the West.

Horses will be inspected at
Ponoka, Monday, Feb. 15th
Lacombe, Tuesday, Feb. 16th
Red Deer, Wednesday, Feb. 17, 1915

E. J. LEGG,

Purchasing Officer for Canadian Government.